

## Message Text

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APPROVED BY:EB/OA/AVP:DBORTMAN

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R 100146Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161813

FOR US REP ICAO

FOL REPEAT LAGOS 5971 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW

JUNE 24, 1975

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5971

TREASURY FOR N. JACKLIN

DOT FOR W. DRISCOLL, OAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON REVISION OF HAGUE

PROTOCOL TO WARSAW CONVENTION

REF: STATE 146446 (NOTAL)

1. I THINK POSSIBILITY THAT TREASURY COULD ACCEPT "AIR BASKET"  
ADDS A VERY WELCOME MEASURE OF FLEXIBILITY TO U. S. BARGAINING  
POSITION. IN THE END, SUCH A SOLUTION COULD PROVE ESSENTIAL TO  
OVERCOME SOVIET BLOC OBJECTIONS TO CHANGE IN POINCARE' FRANC CLAUSE,  
ESPECIALLY IF RUBLE CAN SOMEHOW BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. APPRECIATE  
THE INFORMATION THAT THIS POSSIBILITY SHOULD NOT BE FORECLOSED.

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2. U.S.G., OF COURSE, INITIATED SDR SOLUTION FOR GUATEMALA  
PROTOCOL WHICH, BASED ON RECENT CABLES AND DISCUSSIONS, IS  
RECEIVING A SNOWBALLING SUPPORT. OTHERS MAY FURTHER ARGUE THAT  
WIDESPREAD SUBSTITUTION OF SDR FOR US DOLLAR AS UNIT OF ACCOUNT  
IN PRIVATE TRANSACTIONS IS BASIS FOR EMBRACING, NOT REJECTING,  
SDRS. AND CERTAIN AGENCIES WITHIN USG, DOT IN PARTICULAR, ARE  
PRESSING FOR A UNIVERSAL SUBSTITUTE TO POINCARÉ FRANC CLAUSE,  
TAKING THE ROLE LATTER HAS HAD AS SINGLE METHOD FOR EXPRESSING  
LIMITS IN ALL TRANSPORTATION CONVENTIONS. THIS AVOIDS  
COMPLEXITY OF SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS ON UNIT OF ACCOUNT FORMULA  
FOR EVERY CONVENTION, WHICH ALSO RISKS RESULTS DIFFERING  
SUBSTANTIALLY FROM EACH OTHER. SDR COULD BE BASIS FOR SUCH A  
UNIVERSAL CLAUSE BUT "AIR BASKET" FORMULA CLEARLY WOULD NOT.

3. TREASURY WILL APPRECIATE THAT USG COULD NOT VOTE AGAINST  
AN SDR CLAUSE, IF OTHERS PRESS FOR ADOPTION, AFTER, IN PAST  
2 MONTHS, HAVING GONE TO NEARLY 30 COUNTRIES SEEKING  
CO-SPONSORSHIP OF PROPOSAL FOR SDRS (INCLUDING 4 ARAB COUNTRIES),  
CALLED INFORMAL MEETING AT MONTREAL TO ADVANCE SUCH SOLUTION,  
CIRCULATED OUTLINE SDR CLAUSE INFORMALLY AT MONTREAL AND RECENT  
LMCO LEGAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN LONDON, MADE FORMAL STATEMENT RE  
SDRS WHICH IS ANNEX TO REPORT OF ICAO MONTREAL MEETING WHICH HAS  
BEEN CIRCULATED TO ALL ICAO MEMBER STATES AS ADVANCE DOCUMENTATION  
FOR SEPT CONFERENCE, AND PRESSED ATA AND IATA CARRIERS TO CAMPAIGN  
FOR SDRS. U.S. COULD OF COURSE MOVE TO MUCH LESS VISIBLE ROLE  
ON ADVOCACY OF SDRS (SEE MY CABLE FROM LONDON CONTAINING SUGGES-  
TION THAT A GROUP OF COUNTRIES NOT INCLUDING U. S.  
PUT FORWARD SDR PROPOSAL AT MONTREAL), BUT OTHERS MAY ARGUE IT IS  
TOO LATE FOR THAT.  
EASUM  
UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PORG, EAIR, US, ICAO  
**To:** MONTREAL  
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